

FILE 'USPATFULL, CAPLUS' ENTERED AT 11:28:51 ON 23 SEP 2002

L1 9860 S LOW (6W) DIELECTRIC CONSTANT
L2 3051 S L1 AND PLASMA
L3 98 S L2 AND NITRAT?
L4 18 S L3 AND SILICON CARBIDE

=> d pn 13 total

L3 ANSWER 1 OF 98 USPATFULL
PI US 2002127843 A1 20020912

L3 ANSWER 2 OF 98 USPATFULL
PI US 2002127842 A1 20020912

L3 ANSWER 3 OF 98 USPATFULL
PI US 6447838 B1 20020910

L3 ANSWER 4 OF 98 USPATFULL
PI US 6447695 B1 20020910

L3 ANSWER 5 OF 98 USPATFULL
PI US 2002123158 A1 20020905

L3 ANSWER 6 OF 98 USPATFULL
PI US 2002119651 A1 20020829

L3 ANSWER 7 OF 98 USPATFULL
PI US 2002117758 A1 20020829

L3 ANSWER 8 OF 98 USPATFULL
PI US 6441489 B1 20020827

L3 ANSWER 9 OF 98 USPATFULL
PI US 6440864 B1 20020827

L3 ANSWER 10 OF 98 USPATFULL
PI US 2002113271 A1 20020822

L3 ANSWER 11 OF 98 USPATFULL
PI US 6435944 B1 20020820

L3 ANSWER 12 OF 98 USPATFULL
PI US 2002111026 A1 20020815

L3 ANSWER 13 OF 98 USPATFULL
PI US 2002108861 A1 20020815

L3 ANSWER 14 OF 98 USPATFULL
PI US 2002105612 A1 20020808

L3 ANSWER 15 OF 98 USPATFULL
PI US 2002105611 A1 20020808

L3 ANSWER 16 OF 98 USPATFULL
PI US 2002098701 A1 20020725

L3 ANSWER 17 OF 98 USPATFULL
PI US 6423248 B1 20020723

L3	ANSWER 18 OF 98	USPATFULL	
PI	US 6423148	B1	20020723
L3	ANSWER 19 OF 98	USPATFULL	
PI	US 2002093290	A1	20020718
L3	ANSWER 20 OF 98	USPATFULL	
PI	US 2002092827	A1	20020718
L3	ANSWER 21 OF 98	USPATFULL	
PI	US 2002077035	A1	20020620
L3	ANSWER 22 OF 98	USPATFULL	
PI	US 2002076933	A1	20020620
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PI	US 2002076495	A1	20020620
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PI	US 6380687	B1	20020430
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PI	US 6380007	B1	20020430
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PI	US 2002048959	A1	20020425
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PI	US 2002048531	A1	20020425
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PI	US 2002042193	A1	20020411
L3	ANSWER 30 OF 98	USPATFULL	
PI	US 6368665	B1	20020409
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PI	US 2002037481	A1	20020328
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PI	US 6361712	B1	20020326
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PI	US 6360562	B1	20020326
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PI	US 2002022370	A1	20020221
	US 6451697	B2	20020917
L3	ANSWER 35 OF 98	USPATFULL	
PI	US 6348395	B1	20020219
L3	ANSWER 36 OF 98	USPATFULL	
PI	US 2002016085	A1	20020207

L3	ANSWER 37 OF 98	USPATFULL	
PI	US 2002016060	A1	20020207
	US 6420269	B2	20020716
L3	ANSWER 38 OF 98	USPATFULL	
PI	US 2002011983	A1	20020131
L3	ANSWER 39 OF 98	USPATFULL	
PI	US 2001054728	A1	20011227
L3	ANSWER 40 OF 98	USPATFULL	
PI	US 6323300	B1	20011127
	WO 9823664		19980604
L3	ANSWER 41 OF 98	USPATFULL	
PI	US 2001044201	A1	20011122
	US 6417116	B2	20020709
L3	ANSWER 42 OF 98	USPATFULL	
PI	US 2001037821	A1	20011108
L3	ANSWER 43 OF 98	USPATFULL	
PI	US 2001033026	A1	20011025
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PI	US 2001032829	A1	20011025
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PI	US 2001030367	A1	20011018
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PI	US 2001030366	A1	20011018
L3	ANSWER 47 OF 98	USPATFULL	
PI	US 2001029104	A1	20011011
	US 6444583	B2	20020903
L3	ANSWER 48 OF 98	USPATFULL	
PI	US 6288188	B1	20010911
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PI	US 6285048	B1	20010904
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PI	US 6277726	B1	20010821
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PI	US 6271818	B1	20010807
L3	ANSWER 52 OF 98	USPATFULL	
PI	US 2001010573	A1	20010802
	US 6392730	B2	20020521
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PI	US 2001009447	A1	20010726
	US 6388725	B2	20020514

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PI	US 6265309	B1	20010724
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PI	US 2001008828	A1	20010719
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PI	US 2001007795	A1	20010712
L3	ANSWER 57 OF 98	USPATFULL	
PI	US 6249039	B1	20010619
L3	ANSWER 58 OF 98	USPATFULL	
PI	US 6245663	B1	20010612
L3	ANSWER 59 OF 98	USPATFULL	
PI	US 6208399	B1	20010327
	WO 9847044		19981022
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PI	US 6183934	B1	20010206
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PI	US 6183933	B1	20010206
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PI	US 6159654		20001212
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PI	US 6083661		20000704
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PI	US 6080592		20000627
L3	ANSWER 68 OF 98	USPATFULL	
PI	US 6001517		19991214
L3	ANSWER 69 OF 98	USPATFULL	
PI	US 5981972		19991109
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PI	US 5965679		19991012
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PI	US 5965202		19991012
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PI	US 5928791		19990727

L3 ANSWER 73 OF 98 USPATFULL
PI US 5830563 19981103

L3 ANSWER 74 OF 98 USPATFULL
PI US 5760854 19980602

L3 ANSWER 75 OF 98 USPATFULL
PI US 5723266 19980303

L3 ANSWER 76 OF 98 USPATFULL
PI US 5671027 19970923

L3 ANSWER 77 OF 98 USPATFULL
PI US 5668379 19970916

L3 ANSWER 78 OF 98 USPATFULL
PI US 5610738 19970311

L3 ANSWER 79 OF 98 USPATFULL
PI US 5585450 19961217

L3 ANSWER 80 OF 98 USPATFULL
PI US 5519234 19960521

L3 ANSWER 81 OF 98 USPATFULL
PI US 5480048 19960102

L3 ANSWER 82 OF 98 USPATFULL
PI US 5468679 19951121

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PI US 5423285 19950613

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PI US 5402254 19950328

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PI US 5380612 19950110

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PI US 5308888 19940503

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PI US 5190808 19930302

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PI US 5177670 19930105

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PI US 5120339 19920609

L3 ANSWER 90 OF 98 USPATFULL
PI US 5071701 19911210

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PI US 5042895 19910827

L3 ANSWER 92 OF 98 USPATFULL

PI	US 5011804		19910430
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PI	US 4988413		19910129
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PI	US 4917451		19900417
L3	ANSWER 95 OF 98	USPATFULL	
PI	US 4783368		19881108
L3	ANSWER 96 OF 98	USPATFULL	
PI	US 4720419		19880119
L3	ANSWER 97 OF 98	USPATFULL	
PI	US 4077782		19780307
L3	ANSWER 98 OF 98	CAPLUS	COPYRIGHT 2002 ACS
	PATENT NO.	KIND	DATE
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PI	EP 1172845	A2	20020116
	US 2002016085	A1	20020207
	JP 2002176100	A2	20020621

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(FILE 'HOME' ENTERED AT 10:18:11 ON 23 SEP 2002)

FILE 'USPATFULL, CAPLUS' ENTERED AT 10:18:25 ON 23 SEP 2002

L1 77 S SILICON CARBIDE AND NITRATION?
L2 17 S L1 AND PLASMA?
L3 2 S L2 AND CHAMBER

=> d pn l2 total

L2	ANSWER 1 OF 17	USPATFULL	
PI	US 6313429	B1	20011106
L2	ANSWER 2 OF 17	USPATFULL	
PI	US 2001036530	A1	20011101
L2	ANSWER 3 OF 17	USPATFULL	
PI	US 5710334		19980120
L2	ANSWER 4 OF 17	USPATFULL	
PI	US 5676752		19971014
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PI	US 5588994		19961231
L2	ANSWER 6 OF 17	USPATFULL	
PI	US 5549747		19960827
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PI	US 5480965		19960102
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PI	US 5413952		19950509
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PI	US 5362682		19941108
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PI	US 5328549		19940712
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PI	US 5273616		19931228
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PI	US 5217564		19930608
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PI	US 4837182		19890606
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PI	US 4816420		19890328
L2	ANSWER 15 OF 17	USPATFULL	
PI	US 4783368		19881108
L2	ANSWER 16 OF 17	USPATFULL	
PI	US 4727047		19880223

L3 ANSWER 1 OF 2 USPATFULL
PI US 6313429 B1 20011106

L3 ANSWER 2 OF 2 USPATFULL
PI US 4783368 19881108

AN 2001:181216 USPATFULL|
TI Semiconductor integrated circuit device and fabrication method for
semiconductor integrated circuit device|
IN Noguchi, Junji, Ome, Japan
Ohashi, Naohumi, Hannou, Japan
Saito, Tatsuyuki, Ome, Japan
PI US 2001030367 A1 20011018
AI US 2001-825946 A1 20010405 (9)
PRAI JP 2000-104015 20000405
DT Utility|
FS APPLICATION|
LREP ANTONELLI TERRY STOUT AND KRAUS, SUITE 1800, 1300 NORTH SEVENTEENTH
STREET, ARLINGTON, VA, 22209|
CLMN Number of Claims: 45|
ECL Exemplary Claim: 1|
DRWN 78 Drawing Page(s)|

L2 ANSWER 27 OF 27 CAPLUS COPYRIGHT 2002 ACS
 TI Method to reduce the moisture content in an organic **low dielectric constant** material
 AB . . . absorbed by the org. low k layer, due to exposure to the environment, is then reduced via a high d. **plasma treatment**, performed in a **nitrogen** ambient. The redn. in moisture can be accomplished, even when the org. low k layer had been exposed to the. . .
 AN 2002:444463 CAPLUS
 DN 137:14454
 TI Method to reduce the moisture content in an organic **low dielectric constant** material
 IN Chang, Weng
 PA Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company, Taiwan
 SO U.S., 5 pp.
 CODEN: USXXAM
 DT Patent
 LA English
 FAN.CNT 1

PATENT NO.	KIND	DATE	APPLICATION NO.	DATE
US 6403464	B1	20020611	US 1999-433053	19991103

RE.CNT 12 THERE ARE 12 CITED REFERENCES AVAILABLE FOR THIS RECORD
 ALL CITATIONS AVAILABLE IN THE RE FORMAT

AN 2000:160909 USPATFULL|
TI Process to improve adhesion of HSQ to underlying materials|
IN Chang, Chung-Long, Dou-Liu, Taiwan, Province of China
Jang, Syun-Ming, Hsin-Chu, Taiwan, Province of China
PA Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company, Hsin-Chu, Taiwan, Province
of China (non-U.S. corporation)
PI US 6153512 20001128
AI US 1999-414922 19991012 (9)
DT Utility|
FS Granted|
EXNAM Primary Examiner: Tsai, Jey; Assistant Examiner: Gurley, Lynne|
LREP Saile, George O., Ackerman, Stephen B.|
CLMN Number of Claims: 17|
ECL Exemplary Claim: 1|
DRWN 5 Drawing Figure(s); 3 Drawing Page(s)|
LN.CNT 313|
CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

AN 2001:103240 USPATEFULL
TI Semiconductor device and process for producing the same
IN Yokoyama, Takashi, Tokyo, Japan
Usami, Tatsuya, Tokyo, Japan
PA NEC Corporation, Tokyo, Japan (non-U.S. corporation)
PI US 6255732 B1 20010703
AI US 1999-366517 19990803 (9)
PRAI JP 1998-229708 19980814
DT Utility
FS GRANTED
EXNAM Primary Examiner: Potter, Roy
LREP Hayes, Soloway, Hennessey, Grossman & Hage PC
CLMN Number of Claims: 14
ECL Exemplary Claim: 1
DRWN 18 Drawing Figure(s); 9 Drawing Page(s)
LN.CNT 616
CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

L2 ANSWER 18 OF 27 USPATFULL

SUMM Fluorinated silica glass (FSG) is employed as a **low dielectric constant** (low-k) material for intermetal dielectric (IMD) layers for semiconductor technology of 0.18 .mu.m and beyond (i.e. smaller sizes). However, complications. . .

SUMM U.S. Pat. No. 6,054,379 to Yau et al. describes a method and apparatus for depositing a **low dielectric constant** film by reaction of an organo silane compound and an oxidizing gas.

DETD Second nitrogen gas/plasma treatment 32 preferably has the same composition as first nitrogen gas/**plasma treatment** 18. Second **nitrogen** gas/plasma treatment 32 treats at least the sidewalls 30 of via hole 26, to form sidewall capping layer 34, under. . .

AN 2001:147855 USPATFULL

TI IMD scheme by post-plasma treatment of FSG and TEOS oxide capping layer

IN Aug, Arthur Khoo Siah, Singapore, Singapore
Chen, Feng, Singapore, Singapore
Li, Qiong, Singapore, Singapore

PA Chartered Semiconductor Manufacturing Ltd., Singapore, Singapore
(non-U.S. corporation)

PI US 6284644 B1 20010904

AI US 2000-684518 20001010 (9)

DT Utility

FS GRANTED

EXNAM Primary Examiner: Lebentritt, Michael

LREP Saile, George O., Pike, Rosemary L. S., Stanton, Stephen G.

CLMN Number of Claims: 44

ECL Exemplary Claim: 1

DRWN 8 Drawing Figure(s); 4 Drawing Page(s)

LN.CNT 583

AN 2001:223978 USPATFULL|
TI Non-metallic barrier formations for copper damascene type
interconnects|
IN Chooi, Simon, Singapore, Singapore
Gupta, Subhash, Singapore, Singapore
Zhou, Mei-Sheng, Singapore, Singapore
Hong, Sangki, Singapore, Singapore
PA CHARTERED SEMICONDUCTOR MANUFACTURING LTD. (non-U.S. corporation)
PI US 2001049195 A1 20011206
AI US 2001-925819 A1 20010810 (9)
RLI Division of Ser. No. US 2000-512379, filed on 25 Feb 2000, GRANTED,
Pat.
No. US 6284657
DT Utility|
FS APPLICATION|
LREP George O. Saile, 20 McIntosh Drive, Poughkeepsie, NY, 12603|
CLMN Number of Claims: 179|
ECL Exemplary Claim: 1|
DRWN 5 Drawing Page(s)|
LN.CNT 1441|
CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

AN 2002:1174 USPATFULL
TI Method for forming a high-RI oxide film to reduce fluorine diffusion in
HDP FSG process
IN Wu, Shu-Li, Nan-Tao, TAIWAN, PROVINCE OF CHINA
Jeng, Pei-Ren, Hsin-Chu, TAIWAN, PROVINCE OF CHINA
PA Macronix International Co., Ltd., TAIWAN, PROVINCE OF CHINA (non-U.S.
corporation)
PI US 6335274 B1 20020101
AI US 2000-714128 20001117 (9)
DT Utility
FS GRANTED
EXNAM Primary Examiner: Nelms, David; Assistant Examiner: Le, Thao P.
CLMN Number of Claims: 38

L2 ANSWER 9 OF 27 USPATFULL
 TI Method to reduce the moisture content in an organic **low dielectric constant** material
 AB . . . absorbed by the organic low k layer, due to exposure to the environment, is then reduced via a high density **plasma treatment**, performed in a **nitrogen** ambient. The reduction in moisture can be accomplished, even when the organic low k layer had been exposed to the. . .
 SUMM . . . used to fabricate semiconductor devices, and more specifically to a method used to reduce the moisture content in an organic, **low dielectric constant**, (low k), layer, used to passivate metal interconnect structures.
 SUMM . . . RC delays, when compared to counterparts fabricated with more resistive aluminum, or tungsten interconnect structures. In addition the
 use of **low dielectric constant**, (low k), materials. have allowed the capacitance value of RC delays to be significantly reduced. Inorganic spin on glass, (SOG),. . .
 CLM What is claimed is:
 1. A method of forming an organic **low dielectric constant**, (low k), layer, on a semiconductor substrate, featuring a final nitrogen procedure used to remove water from said organic low. . .
 AN 2002:136891 USPATFULL|
 TI Method to reduce the moisture content in an organic **low dielectric constant** material|
 IN Chang, Weng, Taipei, TAIWAN, PROVINCE OF CHINA
 PA Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company, Hsin-Chu, TAIWAN, PROVINCE OF CHINA (non-U.S. corporation)
 PI US 6403464 B1 20020611
 AI US 1999-433053 19991103 (9)
 DT Utility|
 FS GRANTED|
 EXNAM Primary Examiner: Niebling, John F.; Assistant Examiner: Gurley, Lynne A.|
 LREP Saile, George O., Ackerman, Stephen B.|
 CLMN Number of Claims: 15|
 ECL Exemplary Claim: 1|
 DRWN 3 Drawing Figure(s); 1 Drawing Page(s)|
 LN.CNT 271|
 CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

2 ANSWER 3 OF 27 USPATFULL

SUMM The present invention relates generally to **low dielectric constant** materials used for the intermetal dielectric layer and more particularly to the use of fluorine containing

low dielectric constant materials for intermetal dielectric layers for technologies of 0.18 .mu.m and below. . . . that the intermetal/interlevel dielectric layers (IMD and ILD layers) must be thinner. To reduce capacitive effects with the IMD/ILD materials, **low dielectric constant** (low-k) dielectric materials have been developed which have k values in the range of 3.2 down to 2.0. However, these. . . .

SUMM . . . deposited fluorinated silica glass (FSG) intermetal dielectric (IMD) films have been of high interest for submicron devices due to its **low dielectric constant** (k) and good gap-filling capability. However HDP FSG has several problems from a process integration aspect, such as fluorine out-gassing,. . . .
DETD Referring now to FIG. 9, therein is shown the structure of FIG. 8 after post-plasma treatment with an ammonia (NH.sub.3)-nitrogen (N.sub.2) gas mixture. This post-plasma treatment results in a fluorine-depleted region 32 in the FSG layer 18 around the via. . . .

AN 2002:238937 USPATFULL

TI Intermetal dielectric layer for integrated circuits

IN Liu, Huang, Singapore, SINGAPORE
Sudijono, John, Singapore, SINGAPORE
Tan, Juan Boon, Singapore, SINGAPORE
Goh, Edwin, Singapore, SINGAPORE
Cuthbertson, Alan, Singapore, SINGAPORE
Ang, Arthur, Singapore, SINGAPORE
Chen, Feng, Singapore, SINGAPORE
Li, Qiong, Singapore, SINGAPORE
Chew, Peter, Singapore, SINGAPORE

PA Chartered Semiconductor Manufacturing Ltd., Singapore, SINGAPORE
(non-U.S. corporation)
Lucent Technologies Inc., Allentown, PA, United States (U.S. corporation)

PI US 6451687 B1 20020917

AI US 2000-721898 20001124 (9)

DT Utility

FS GRANTED

EXNAM Primary Examiner: Quach, T. N.

LREP Ishimaru, Mikio

CLMN Number of Claims: 10

ECL Exemplary Claim: 1

DRWN 10 Drawing Figure(s); 4 Drawing Page(s)

LN.CNT 270

L14 ANSWER 17 OF 20 USPATFULL

SUMM . . . gas for the non oxidative ambient, use may be made of a nitride

gas or an inert gas such as **argon** or **helium**.

SUMM The **plasma treatment** means is desired to treat a dielectric film containing one element selected from the group consisting of silicon dioxide, silicon nitride, **silicon carbide**, aluminum oxide, zirconium oxide, cupric oxide and tungsten oxide.

SUMM . . . of the treatment substrate containing silicon, the treatment substrate containing silicon and oxygen, and the treatment substrate containing silicon and **nitrogen** with the light.

DETD To the cooling pipe 28, a circulator 38 is provided. The circulator 38 circulates a coolant such as liquid **nitrogen** and cools the treatment substrate 26 rapidly. The lamp heater 27 used in combination with the cooling pipe 28 can. . .

CLM What is claimed is:

9. The measurement system according to claim 7, wherein the **plasma treatment** means treats a dielectric film containing one element selected from the group consisting of silicon dioxide, silicon nitride, **silicon carbide**, aluminum oxide, zirconium oxide, cupric oxide and tungsten oxide.

18. The measurement system according to claim 17, wherein the light radiation means irradiates anyone of the treatment substrate containing silicon, the treatment substrate containing silicon and oxygen, and the treatment substrate containing silicon and **nitrogen** with the light.

AN 1998:159774 USPATFULL|

TI Measurement system and measurement method|

IN Katsumata, Ryota, Yokohama, Japan

Hayasaka, Nobuo, Yokosuka, Japan

Yasuda, Naoki, Yokohama, Japan

Miyajima, Hideshi, Yokohama, Japan

Higashikawa, Iwao, Tokyo, Japan

Hotta, Masaki, Sagamihara, Japan

PA Kabushiki Kaisha Toshiba, Kawasaki, Japan (non-U.S. corporation)

PI US 5851842 19981222

AI US 1997-857360 19970515 (8)

PRAI JP 1996-121918 19960516

JP 1997-65147 19970318

DT Utility|

FS Granted|

EXNAM Primary Examiner: Powell, William|

LREP Oblon, Spivak, McClelland, Maier & Neustadt, P.C.|

CLMN Number of Claims: 22|

ECL Exemplary Claim: 11|

DRWN 24 Drawing Figure(s); 13 Drawing Page(s)|

LN.CNT 1731|

CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

L2 ANSWER 1 OF 9 USPATFULL

SUMM An inter-layer insulation film is formed, using an insulation film of a **low dielectric constant**, contact holes and trenches are made by dual damascene type plasma is used when the lower layer is metal such. . . .

DETD In the above description, an inter-layer insulation film should be an insulation film with a **low dielectric constant**. Contact holes and trenches should be formed by dual damascene type. RF plasma is used for the cleaning process when. . . .

DETD In the above description, an inter-layer insulation film should be an insulation film with a **low dielectric constant**. Contact holes and trenches should be formed by dual damascene type. RF plasma is used for the cleaning process when. . . .

DETD In the above process, reaction gas such as helium (He), hydrogen (H.sub.2) or **argon** (Ar) may be used for **plasma treatment** process, and the process is performed within 100 W through 500 W. A DLI, a CEM or a vaporizer of. . . .

AN 2002:29338 USPATFULL

TI Method of forming a copper wiring in a semiconductor device

IN Pyo, Sung Gyu, Ichon-shi, KOREA, REPUBLIC OF

Kim, Heon Do, Kunpho-shi, KOREA, REPUBLIC OF

PA Hyundai Electronics Industries Co., Ltd., Ichon, KOREA, REPUBLIC OF (non-U.S. corporation)

PI US 6346478 B1 20020212

AI US 2000-488521 20000121 (9)

PRAI KR 1999-13008 19990413

DT Utility

FS GRANTED

EXNAM Primary Examiner: Niebling, John F.; Assistant Examiner: Gurley, Lynne

LREP Pennie & Edmonds LLP

CLMN Number of Claims: 81

ECL Exemplary Claim: 1

DRWN 4 Drawing Figure(s); 3 Drawing Page(s)

LN.CNT 1232

CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

L2 ANSWER 2 OF 9 USPATFULL

SUMM . . . the outside barrier layer, reducing its effectiveness. Fourth, to control wettability of the barrier layers, the Hirao technique describes an **argon-plasma treatment**, another time-consuming step that further impairs its practicality.

DETD . . . The preferred embodiment uses a porous silicon dioxide. (For details on forming this material, see U.S. Pat. No. 5,470,801 entitled "

"

Low Dielectric Constant Insulation Layer for Integrated Circuit Structure and Method of Making Same" which is incorporated herein by reference.) Hole 28a is. . . .

AN 2001:144289 USPATFULL

TI Methods for making copper and other metal interconnections in integrated circuits

IN Ahn, Kie Y., Chappaqua, NY, United States

Forbes, Leonard, Corvallis, OR, United States

PA Micron Technology, Inc. (U.S. corporation)

PI US 2001017424 A1 20010830

AI US 2001-817447 A1 20010326 (9)

RLI Division of Ser. No. US 1998-32197, filed on 27 Feb 1998, GRANTED, Pat.
No. US 6211073
DT Utility
FS APPLICATION
LREP SCHWEGMAN, LUNDBERG, WOESSNER & KLUTH, P.O. BOX 2938, MINNEAPOLIS, MN,
55402
CLMN Number of Claims: 38
ECL Exemplary Claim: 1
DRWN 3 Drawing Page(s)
LN.CNT 502
CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

L2 ANSWER 3 OF 9 USPATFULL
SUMM . . . the outside barrier layer, reducing its effectiveness. Fourth,
to control wettability of the barrier layers, the Hirao technique
describes an **argon-plasma treatment**,
another time-consuming step that further impairs its practicality.
DETD . . . The preferred embodiment uses a porous silicon dioxide. (For
details on forming this material, see U.S. Pat. No. 5,470,801 entitled
"

Low Dielectric Constant Insulation Layer for
Integrated Circuit Structure and Method of Making Same" which is
incorporated herein by reference.) Hole 28a is. . .
AN 2001:47947 USPATFULL
TI Methods for making copper and other metal interconnections in
integrated
circuits
IN Ahn, Kie Y., Chappaqua, NY, United States
Forbes, Leonard, Corvallis, OR, United States
PA Micron Technology, Inc., Boise, ID, United States (U.S. corporation)
PI US 6211073 B1 20010403
AI US 1998-32197 19980227 (9)
DT Utility
FS Granted
EXNAM Primary Examiner: Smith, Matthew; Assistant Examiner: Lee, Calvin
LREP Schwegman, Lundberg, Woessner & Kluth, P.A.
CLMN Number of Claims: 44
ECL Exemplary Claim: 1
DRWN 11 Drawing Figure(s); 3 Drawing Page(s)
LN.CNT 692
CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

L14 ANSWER 5 OF 20 USPATFULL

AB . . . need for an additional deposited layer. In one aspect, the invention treats an exposed surface of carbon-containing material, such as **silicon carbide**, with an inert gas plasma, such as a **helium** (He), **argon** (Ar), or other inert gas plasma, or an oxygen-containing plasma such as a nitrous oxide (N.sub.2O) plasma. Other carbon-containing materials can include organic polymeric materials, amorphous carbon, amorphous fluorocarbon, carbon containing oxides, and other carbon-containing materials. The **plasma treatment** is preferably performed in situ following the deposition of the layer to be treated. Preferably, the processing chamber in which in situ deposition and **plasma treatment** occurs is configured to deliver the same or similar precursors for the carbon-containing layer(s). However, the layer(s) can be deposited. . . .

SUMM . . . The present invention relates generally to the fabrication of integrated circuits on substrates. More particularly, the invention relates to a **plasma treatment** of carbon-containing layers, such as **silicon carbide**, to enhance adhesion to an adjacent layer and to minimize oxidation of the carbon-containing layer.

SUMM . . . the invention treats an exposed surface of carbon-containing material, such as SiC, with an inert gas plasma, such as a **helium** (He), **argon** (Ar), or other inert gas plasma, or an oxygen-containing plasma such as a nitrous oxide (N.sub.2O) plasma. Other carbon-containing. . . .

DETD . . . the trimethylsilane flowing at a preferable rate of about 50 to about 200 sccm./ Preferably, a noble gas, such as **helium** or **argon**, is also flown into the chamber at a rate of about 200 to about 1000 sccm. The chamber pressure is. . . .

DETD . . . contained a similar composition. The He plasma was used without the substantial presence of other gases including oxygen, hydrogen, and/or **nitrogen**. To the extent that any oxygen, hydrogen, and/or **nitrogen** was present in the He gas plasma, the presence of such gases was negligible.

DETD . . . of the various layers, the oxide on the conductor can be exposed to a plasma containing a reducing agent of **nitrogen** and hydrogen, such as ammonia, to reduce the oxide.

DETD . . . dielectric layer, the flow rate of silicon tetrafluoride, commonly used for a FSG deposition, may be reduced while increasing the **helium** or **argon** flow to create a smooth transition from the dielectric layer to the SiC layer. The flexibility in the transition is. . . .

CLM What is claimed is:
. . . 3, wherein exposing the carbon-containing layer to the treatment plasma comprises exposing the layer in the substantial absence of oxygen, **nitrogen**, and hydrogen containing gases.

AN 2002:105760 USPATFULL|

TI PLASMA TREATMENT TO ENHANCE ADHESION AND TO MINIMIZE OXIDATION OF CARBON-CONTAINING LAYERS|

IN HUANG, JUDY, LOS GATOS, CA, UNITED STATES

PI US 2002054962 A1 20020509

AI US 1999-336525 A1 19990618 (9)

DT Utility|
FS APPLICATION|
LREP PATENT COUNSEL, APPLIED MATERIALS INC, LEGAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT, P O
BOX 450A, SANTA CLARA, CA, 95052|
CLMN Number of Claims: 23|
ECL Exemplary Claim: 1|
DRWN 3 Drawing Page(s)|
LN.CNT 718|
CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

1/23/02

> d kwic bib total

L4 ANSWER 1 OF 6 USPATFULL

SUMM . . . employ interposed between the patterns of patterned microelectronic conductor layers when fabricating microelectronic fabrications microelectronic dielectric layers formed of comparatively **low dielectric constant** dielectric materials having dielectric constants in a range of from about 2.0 to about 4.0. For comparison purposes, microelectronic dielectric. . .

SUMM Microelectronic dielectric layers formed of comparatively **low dielectric constant** dielectric materials are desirable in the art of microelectronic fabrication formed interposed between the patterns of patterned microelectronic conductor layers. . .

SUMM Of the comparatively **low dielectric constant** dielectric materials which may be employed for forming microelectronic dielectric layers within microelectronic fabrications, carbon doped silicon containing dielectric materials,. . .

SUMM . . . the first object of the present invention, wherein the carbon doped silicon containing dielectric layer is formed with a comparatively

low dielectric constant while simultaneously having enhanced adhesion with respect to an additional microelectronic layer formed thereupon.

SUMM . . . containing dielectric layer within a microelectronic fabrication, wherein the carbon doped silicon containing dielectric layer is formed with a comparatively **low dielectric constant**, while simultaneously having an enhanced adhesion of an additional microelectronic layer formed thereupon.

DETD . . . containing dielectric layer within a microelectronic fabrication, wherein the carbon doped silicon containing dielectric layer is formed with a comparatively **low dielectric constant**, while simultaneously having enhanced adhesion with respect to an additional microelectronic layer formed thereupon.

DETD . . . object, it has been determined experimentally that comparatively mild conditions employed within the oxidizing plasma 18 will preserve the desirably **low dielectric constant** dielectric constant properties of the blanket carbon doped silicon oxide dielectric layer 16 when forming therefrom the oxidizing plasma treated. . .

DETD . . . patterned carbon doped silicon oxide dielectric layers 16a', 16b' and 16c' are formed while preserving a desirably low and comparatively **low dielectric constant** of the carbon doped silicon containing dielectric material from which is formed the blanket carbon doped silicon oxide dielectric layer. . .

DETD . . . silicon oxide dielectric layers were then exposed to various plasma treatments which included: (1) a low temperature nitrous oxide and **helium plasma treatment** at a temperature of about 30 degrees centigrade for a time period of either one minute or two minutes, while. . . area and a nitrous oxide flow rate of about 200 standard cubic centimeters per minute (sccm); (3) a high temperature **helium plasma treatment** at a temperature of about 400 degrees centigrade for a time period of about one minute, while also employing a. . . a helium flow rate of about 500 standard cubic centimeters per minute; (4) a high.

temperature

20 percent oxygen in **helium plasma treatment** at a temperature of about 400 degrees centigrade for a time period of about 30 seconds, while also employing a. . .

AN 2002:144199 USPATFULL
TI Soft plasma oxidizing plasma method for forming carbon doped silicon
containing dielectric layer with enhanced adhesive properties
IN Li, Lain-Jong, Hualien, TAIWAN, PROVINCE OF CHINA
 Bao, Tien-I, Hshin-Chu, TAIWAN, PROVINCE OF CHINA
 Lin, Cheng-Chung, Taipei, TAIWAN, PROVINCE OF CHINA
 Jang, Syun-Ming, Hsin-Chu, TAIWAN, PROVINCE OF CHINA
 PA Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co., Ltd, Hsin Chu, TAIWAN, PROVINCE
 OF CHINA (non-U.S. corporation)
 PI US 6407013 B1 20020618
 AI US 2001-761422 20010116 (9)
 DT Utility
 FS GRANTED
 EXNAM Primary Examiner: Ghyka, Alexander G.
 LREP Tung & Associates
 CLMN Number of Claims: 13
 ECL Exemplary Claim: 1
 DRWN 5 Drawing Figure(s); 2 Drawing Page(s)
 LN.CNT 794
 CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

L4 ANSWER 2 OF 6 USPATFULL
SUMM The present invention relates generally to fabricating semiconductor
devices and specifically to methods of forming **low dielectric constant** (low-k) materials used in
fabricating semiconductor devices.
SUMM U.S. Pat. No. 5,661,093 to Ravi et al. describes a method for
depositing
a halogen-doped oxide film having a **low dielectric constant** that is resistant to outgassing of the halogen dopant
and moisture absorption, and also retains these properties during
subsequent processing. . . .
SUMM Accordingly, it is an object of the present invention to provide a
method of forming CVD **low dielectric constant** material having improved crack resistance.
SUMM . . . object of the present invention is to provide a method of
forming up to and over 3 .mu.m thick CVD **low dielectric constant** material having improved crack
resistance.
SUMM Yet another object of the present invention is to provide a method of
forming improving the crack resistance of CVD **low dielectric constant** material having without
sacrificing the **low dielectric constant** characteristic of the material.
DETD The CVD low-k SiOCN film made in accordance with the present invention
also maintains the Prior CVD low-k film's **low dielectric constant** characteristics. For example, in
the case of BD, Prior BD has a final dielectric constant after
processing of about 3.22. . . .
CLM What is claimed is:
7. The method of claim 1, wherein said stabilization treatment of said
final deposited film includes a **helium plasma treatment** at from about 15 to 19.degree. C.
said 15. The method of claim 10, wherein said stabilization treatment of
final deposited film includes a **helium plasma treatment** of about 15 to 19.degree. C.

AN 2002:81415 USPATFULL|
TI Method to improve the crack resistance of CVD low-k dielectric constant
material|
IN Lin, Cheng Chung, Taipei, TAIWAN, PROVINCE OF CHINA
Jeng, Shwang Ming, Hsin-Chiu, TAIWAN, PROVINCE OF CHINA
Li, Lain Jong, Hwa-Liang, TAIWAN, PROVINCE OF CHINA
PA Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company, Hsin-Chu, TAIWAN, PROVINCE
OF CHINA (non-U.S. corporation)
PI US 6372661 B1 20020416
AI US 2000-617011 20000714 (9)
DT Utility|
FS GRANTED|
EXNAM Primary Examiner: Everhart, Caridad; Assistant Examiner: Lee, Jr.,
Granvill D|
LREP Saile, George O., Ackerman, Stephen B., Stanton, Stephen G.|
CLMN Number of Claims: 32|
ECL Exemplary Claim: 1|
DRWN 3 Drawing Figure(s); 3 Drawing Page(s)|
LN.CNT 563|
CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

2 ANSWER 3 OF 7 USPATFULL

DETD Suitable dielectric or passivation materials include, without limitation, any dielectric capable of passivating a **SiC** substrate. Preferred dielectrics include oxides, nitrides, oxynitrides, and mixtures thereof. Suitable oxides include, without limitation, thermally grown or deposited oxides, . . . low temperature thermal oxides (LTO), triethylorthosilane formed oxides (TEOS), and mixtures or combination thereof. Other suitable dielectrics include, without limitation, **deposited silicon nitride**, oxynitride, and thermally-formed nitrided silicon oxide.

AN 2002:81775 USPATFULL

TI Passivated silicon carbide devices with low leakage current and method of fabricating

IN Alok, Dev, Danbury, CT, United States

Arnold, Emil, Chappaqua, NY, United States

PA Philips Electronics North America Corporation, New York, NY, United States (U.S. corporation)

PI US 6373076 B1 20020416

AI US 1999-455663 19991207 (9)

DT Utility

FS GRANTED

EXNAM Primary Examiner: Flynn, Nathan; Assistant Examiner: Forde, Remmon R.

CLMN Number of Claims: 20

ECL Exemplary Claim: 1

DRWN 8 Drawing Figure(s); 5 Drawing Page(s)

LN.CNT 554

CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.